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Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/725,901	WU, GUOLIANG	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Raj K. Jain	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 12/1/03.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-3, 6, 15, 16 renumbered 1-6.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 6. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>20070516</u> |
| 3. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date <u>12/1/03</u> | 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment |
| 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
| | 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Brian Oaks on 10 May 07.

Cancel claims 4, 5, and 7-14.

Add new claims 15 and 16.

Amend claims 1, and 6 as follows,

1. (Currently Amended) A map of transmission slots for a port of a network element, the map embodied in a computer-readable medium having computer-executable instructions comprising:

a plurality of hierarchical sets of substantially evenly spaced port transmission slots;

the hierarchical sets comprising a plurality of parent sets each having its port transmission slots divided between a plurality of child sets, ~~and~~ and the child sets comprising interleaved port transmission slots;

wherein the hierarchical sets further comprise a plurality of primary hierarchical sets and secondary hierarchical sets, the primary hierarchical sets each comprising substantially evenly spaced port transmission slots and a number of port transmission slots corresponding to multiple of a base transmission rate for each of port transmission slots, the secondary hierarchical sets comprising remaining port transmission slots.

6. (Currently Amended) A network element for a telecommunication system, comprising:

a plurality of ports for connection to disparate transmission lines;

a map of port transmission slots for each of the ports, the maps each comprising:

a plurality of hierarchical sets of substantially evenly spaced port transmission slots;

the hierarchical sets comprising a plurality of parent sets each having its port transmission slots divided between a plurality of child sets, ~~and~~ the child sets comprising interleaved port transmission slots;

wherein the hierarchical sets further comprise a plurality of primary hierarchical sets and secondary hierarchical sets, the primary hierarchical sets each comprising substantially evenly spaced port transmission slots and a number of port transmission slots corresponding to multiple of a base transmission rate for the port transmission slots, the secondary hierarchical sets comprising remaining port transmission slots.

15. (New) The network element of Claim 6, wherein each parent set has the same number of child sets.

16. (New) The network element of Claim 6, wherein the hierarchical sets further comprise a plurality of base sets, the base sets each having a number of port transmission slots corresponding to a base transmission rate for the port.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

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Claims 1, and 6 are allowed. The prior art discloses A network element for a telecommunication system, comprising a plurality of ports for connection to disparate transmission lines and a map of port transmission slots for each of the ports.

The prior art however fails to disclose a plurality of hierarchical sets of substantially evenly spaced port transmission slots, wherein the hierarchical sets further comprise a plurality of primary hierarchical sets and secondary hierarchical sets, the primary hierarchical sets each comprising substantially evenly spaced port transmission slots and a number of port transmission slots corresponding to multiple of a base transmission rate for each of port transmission slots, the secondary hierarchical sets comprising remaining port transmission slots.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Raj K. Jain whose telephone number is 571-272-3145. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

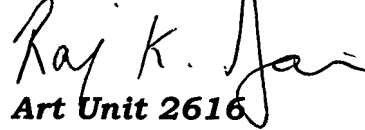
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Chi Pham can be reached on 571-272-3179. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Raj K. Jain

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Raj K. Jain", written over the printed name and art unit number.

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May 16, 2007